



Burnham-on-Crouch

Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR

1921.

THOMAS D. WHITE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Burnham-on-Crouch Urban District Council.

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1921.



To the Burnham-on-Crouch Urban Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Report for the year 1921, on lines prescribed by the Ministry of Health.

The area of Burnham is 4,517 acres ; population (1921), 3,406 ; number of inhabited houses, 884 ; number of families or separate occupiers, 898 ; rateable value, £14,104 ; sum represented by a penny rate, £42 10s. 6d.

The total number of births for 1921 was 58 (32 males, 26 females) as against 70 for the preceding year. The total number of deaths was 42 (20 males, 22 females) as against 40 for 1920. Included in the 58 births were 4 illegitimate cases.

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, | |
| Childbirth | 0 |

Deaths of infants under one year of age :

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Legitimate | 2 |
| Illegitimate | 0 |

Death Rate of infants per 1,000 births, 35

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Deaths from measles, all ages | 0 |
| Deaths from whooping cough, all ages | 0 |
| Deaths from diarrhoea, under 2 years | 0 |

I append a table of causes of death and vital statistics :

Causes of Death in Burnham-on-Crouch Urban District, 1921.—Civilians only.

| Causes of Death. | | | | Males. | Females. | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|--------|----------|----|
| ALL CAUSES | ... | ... | ... | 20 | ... | 22 |
| 1 Enteric Fever | ... | ... | ... | 1 | | |
| 2 Diphtheria | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 2 |
| 3 Influenza | ... | ... | ... | 1 | | |
| 4 Tuberculosis of respiratory system | ... | | ... | 1 | ... | 1 |
| 5 Cancer, malignant disease | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | 3 |
| 6 Rheumatic Fever | ... | ... | ... | 1 | | |
| 7 Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc. | ... | | ... | 2 | ... | 1 |
| 8 Heart Disease | ... | ... | ... | 1 | | |
| 9 Arterio-sclerosis | ... | ... | ... | 3 | ... | 2 |
| 10 Pneumonia (all forms) | ... | ... | ... | | ... | 1 |
| 11 Other respiratory diseases | ... | ... | ... | 1 | | |
| 12 Ulcer of stomach or duodenum | ... | | ... | | ... | 1 |
| 13 Appendicitis and Typhlitis | ... | ... | ... | | ... | 2 |
| 14 Acute and chronic Nephritis | ... | ... | ... | 2 | | |
| 15 Congenital Debility and Malformation, premature birth | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 |
| 16 Other deaths from violence | ... | ... | ... | | .. | 1 |
| 17 Other defined diseases | ... | ... | ... | 3 | ... | 7 |
| Deaths of infants } Total | | | | 1 | ... | 1 |
| under 1 year } Illegitimate | | | | — | | — |
| TOTAL BIRTHS | ... | ... | ... | 32 | ... | 26 |
| Legitimate | ... | ... | ... | 30 | ... | 24 |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | 2 |
| POPULATION | ... | ... | ... | | 3406 | |

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Net Death Rate | ... | ... | ... | 12·3 |
| Birth Rate | ... | ... | ... | 17·0 |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate | ... | | ... | ·58 |
| Death Rate for England and Wales | ... | | ... | 12·1 |
| Birth Rate | „ | | ... | 22·4 |

Of the 42 deaths which took place during the year :

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 2 took place under 1 year | | |
| 0 | „ | over 1 year and under 5 |
| 3 | „ | „ 5 years and under 15 |
| 1 | „ | „ 15 years and under 25 |
| 2 | „ | „ 25 years and under 45 |
| 15 | „ | „ 45 years and under 65 |
| 19 | „ | „ 65 years |
| <hr/> | | |
| 42 | | |

Notifiable Diseases during the year.

| Disease. | Total cases notified. | | Total Deaths. | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----|---------------|---|
| Diphtheria | ... | 14 | ... | 3 |
| Scarlet Fever | ... | 23 | ... | 0 |
| Enteric Fever | ... | 1 | ... | 1 |
| Puerperal Fever | ... | 0 | ... | 0 |
| Pneumonia | ... | 2 | ... | 0 |
| Tuberculosis : | | | | |
| Pulmonary, m. | ... | 4 | ... | 0 |
| „ f. | ... | 1 | ... | 0 |
| Non-Pulmonary | ... | 0 | ... | 0 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | | 0 | ... | 0 |

Causes of Sickness.

As will be seen above, 23 cases of scarlet fever took place during the year. The first case took place in May and the last in December. They were all of a very mild type, and none proved fatal.

Fourteen cases of diphtheria were also notified, commencing at the end of October. For the most part the cases were mild ; there were, however, a few severe ones and three cases proved fatal. The cause of the outbreak could not be traced, and none of the cases of scarlet fever or diphtheria were admitted to hospital.

The following are the figures for the rainfall for the last three years, for which I am indebted to Mr. E. Dilliway, the Clerk to the Council :

| | 1919 | | 1920 | | 1921 |
|--------------|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|
| January ... | 2·77 | ... | 2·19 | ... | 1·53 |
| February ... | 2·70 | ... | ·34 | ... | ·74 |
| March ... | 2·35 | ... | ·67 | ... | ·63 |
| April ... | 2·77 | ... | 2·95 | ... | 1·0 |
| May ... | ·32 | ... | ·77 | .. | 1·09 |
| June ... | 1·06 | ... | ·85 | ... | ·25 |
| July ... | 1·97 | ... | 4·32 | ... | ·22 |
| August ... | 2·22 | ... | 1·17 | ... | ·51 |
| September | 1·03 | ... | 5·56 | ... | 1·02 |
| October ... | ·80 | ... | 1·02 | ... | ·35 |
| November | 2·44 | ... | ·55 | ... | 1·52 |
| December | 3·17 | ... | 2·74 | ... | 1·11 |
| | <hr/> | | <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| | 23·60 | | 23·13 | | 9·98 |
| | <hr/> | | <hr/> | | <hr/> |

The following statement gives the rainfall for each of the preceding eight years. It will be seen from this that the average for that period is about 24·15 inches.

| | | | | | |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 1913 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 21·39 |
| 1914 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 23·99 |
| 1915 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 29·05 |
| 1916 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 26·59 |
| 1917 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22·66 |
| 1918 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22·78 |
| 1919 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 23·60 |
| 1920 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 23·13 |
| 1921 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9·98 |

Nursing Arrangements, Hospitals, etc.

There is a voluntary Nursing Association helped by the County which supplies a Nurse for the town for general purposes but not for infectious cases. Cases of measles are nursed at home by the parents.

There are no mid-wives in the town.

The Parish Nurse attends daily at a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre held at her house.

Tuberculosis patients are frequently visited by the County Tuberculosis Officers.

Venereal cases are treated at Chelmsford when application is made.

The town has an Infectious Hospital capable of receiving 20 patients, situated in the Maldon Road, supported entirely by the Council.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—For the removal of infectious cases there is a special brougham kept ready and provided by the Council.

An Ambulance purchased from the Metropolitan Police is in use for non-infectious cases and accidents.

In the event of small pox appearing in the town, the arrangements are to have the patient at once removed to a tent to be erected on the marshes pending their removal to a small pox hospital.

Laboratory Work.

The several doctors send their bacteriological specimens to the County Offices at the expense of the local authority.

The M.O.H. always keeps a supply of diphtheria anti-toxin ready at hand, which is provided by the Sanitary Authority for the use of the doctors.

No Adoptive Acts.—The only Bye-laws are those relating to New Streets and Buildings.

Sanitary Administration.

The staff consists of the Medical Officer, the Sanitary Inspector, who is also the Surveyor, and an odd man when required.

A contribution is made by the County Council towards the salaries of the M.O.H. and the Sanitary Inspector.

Housing.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|----|
| (a) Total | ... | ... | ... | 12 |
| (b) As part of a municipal housing scheme | | | | 10 |

Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|---|
| Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers | ... | ... | 6 |
|---|-----|-----|---|

Action under Statutory Powers.

Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
|--|-----|-----|-----|---|

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied :—

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|---|
| (a) by Owners | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners | | | | — |

Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c. Act., 1909.

| | | |
|--|-----|---|
| Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | ... | 3 |
|--|-----|---|

I append a statement of work done by the Sanitary Inspector, to whom my thanks are due for the support given me.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

THOMAS D. WHITE,

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF WORK done through the Sanitary Inspector
in the Urban Sanitary District of Burnham-on-Crouch,
during the year ending December 31st, 1921.

| | | | | Total No. for Year. |
|----|---|-----|-----|-------------------------|
| 1 | Complaints received | ... | ... | 6 |
| 2 | Nuisances detected without complaint | ... | ... | 12 |
| 3 | Nuisances abated | ... | ... | 22 |
| 4 | Nuisances remaining unabated | ... | ... | — |
| 5 | Formal Notices served | ... | ... | — |
| 6 | Summonses taken out | ... | ... | — |
| 7 | Convictions obtained | ... | ... | — |
| 8 | Lodging Houses inspected | ... | ... | — |
| 9 | Slaughter Houses inspected | ... | .. | 4 quarterly |
| 10 | Bakehouses inspected | ... | ... | 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ -yearly |
| 11 | Dairies and Milk Shops inspected | ... | ... | 6 quarterly |
| 12 | Cowsheds inspected | .. | ... | 5 quarterly |
| 13 | No. of samples of Milk taken for examination for cleanliness, etc. | ... | ... | 6 |
| 14 | Filthy Houses cleansed, Sec. 46, P.H. Act, 1875 | ... | ... | — |
| 15 | Houses disinfected | ... | ... | 20 |
| 16 | Cases of overcrowding abated | ... | ... | — |
| 17 | Houses erected for which Water "Certificates" were applied | ... | ... | 10 |
| 18 | "Certificates" granted | ... | ... | — |
| 19 | „ deferred | .. | ... | — |
| 20 | Public Wells, total number in district | ... | ... | — |
| 21 | New Public Wells sunk or improved supplies of water afforded | ... | ... | — |
| 22 | Wells cleansed or repaired | ... | ... | — |
| 23 | Wells closed | ... | ... | — |
| 24 | Privies, number in district | ... | ... | 3 |
| 25 | „ number abolished during the year | ... | ... | — |
| 26 | Pail Closets, number in district | ... | ... | 38 |
| 27 | Water Closets, number in district without flushing cisterns | ... | ... | 160 |
| 28 | Water Closets with flushing cisterns | ... | ... | 610 |
| 29 | Privies and W.C.'s repaired; W.C.'s supplied with water | ... | ... | — |
| 30 | Water Cisterns cleansed, repaired or covered | ... | ... | — |
| 31 | Animals improperly kept removed | ... | ... | — |
| 32 | Samples of Water taken for analysis | ... | ... | 2 |
| 33 | Compensation paid for destruction of infected bedding | ... | ... | — |
| 34 | Seizures of unsound Meat, etc. | ... | ... | — |

(Signed) J. COOK,

Sanitary Inspector.



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